

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05
SP-02 ICA-11 PA-01 L-03 OPR-02 /089 W
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P R 041800Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1835
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

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USEC, USOECDALSO FOR EMBASSY, USODOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT, ELAB
SUBJECT: TOP ITALIAN LABOR LEADERS TO VISIT WASHINGTON

REF: ROME 4561, 5055

1. SUMMARY. THE TOP LEADERS OF THE DC-ORIENTED LABOR
CONFEDERATION CISL PLAN TO BE IN WASHINGTON DURING THE
WEEK OF APRIL 16 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE AFL-CIO. THEY
HAVE ASKED FOR HIGH LEVEL, SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS WITH
THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND LABOR DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

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THE EMBASSY REGARDS THIS AS A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO
INFLUENCE CISL'S CURRENT AND FUTURE LEADERS AND
RECOMMENDS WARM COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. THE LEADING OFFICIALS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC
ORIENTED LABOR CONFEDERATION CISL WILL BE VISITING
AFL-CIO HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON DURING THE PERIOD

APRIL 15-20. THE DELEGATION WILL BE COMPRISED OF SECRETARY GENERAL LUIGI MACARIO, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL PIERRE CARNITI, NATIONAL SECRETARY (AND LEADING FIGURE OF THE CISL "MINORITY") FRANCO MARINI AND EMILIO GABAGLIO WHO IS HEAD OF CISL'S BUREAU FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. THE VISIT DERIVES FROM A CISL INITIATIVE.

3. DURING A MEETING MARCH 31 OF THE AMBASSADOR AND LABOR ATTACHE WITH CISL LEADERS CARNITI AND MARINI, THE LATTER EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRE TO INCORPORATE INTO THEIR PROGRAM HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS AT THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND LABOR. THE IDEA WAS WARMLY WELCOMED BY THE AMBASSADOR WHO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT AN APPOINTMENT COULD BE ARRANGED WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST. DESK OFFICER MCKINLEY AS WELL AS S/IL AND THE EUR LABOR ADVISER WOULD BE OTHERS WITH WHOM FRUITFUL CONTACT COULD BE MADE. ANALAGOUS HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS AT LABOR WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

4. IN A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION APRIL 4 BETWEEN THE LABATT AND EMILIO GABAGLIO, INTEREST IN THE FOEGOING SERIES OF CONTACTS WAS REITERATED. GABAGLIO ALSO ADDED THAT CONTACT AT THE NSC, IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE AND FEASIBLE, WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO THE DELEGATION.
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5. GABAGLIO ASKED WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO FURNISH A SKILLED INTERPRETER, BOTH FOR THE ENCOUNTERS WITH THE AFL-CIO AND WITH US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. WHILE GABAGLIO SPEAKS SOME ENGLISH AND UNDERSTANDS MORE, HE IS FAR FROM ABLE TO ACT IN AN INTERPRETING ROLE.

6. SUBJECTS WHICH WOULD INTEREST THE CISL LEADERS IN THEIR GOVERNMENTAL CONTACTS INCLUDE THE ILO, ITALIAN-US TRADE RELATIONS AND THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ITALY AND THE US, INCLUDING THE EVOLUTION OF ITALIAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. PRESENT PLANS CALL FOR ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON APRIL 15 AND DEPARTURE LATE APRIL 20. HOWEVER, IF NECESSARY, THE DELEGATION COULD PROBABLY EXTEND ITS STAY UNTIL APRIL 21.

7. COMMENT: THE DELEGATION CONSISTS OF THOSE WHO, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, WILL BE CHARGE OF CISL, WITH ITS NEARLY THREEE MILLION MEMBERS, FOR THE NEXT DECADE OR MORE. AT A TIME WHEN CISL, IN

PARTICULAR, HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF COMMUNIST ATTEMPTS TO DOMINATE THE LABOR MOVEMENT AND EXPLOIT IT FOR THEIR OWN ENDS (ROME'S 5055, 4561), IT IS CERTAINLY IN USG INTEREST TO AID IN THE RESUMPTION OF CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT AND THIS KEY ELEMENT IN ITALY'S NON-COMMUNIST LABOR MOVEMENT. IT IS ALSO IN OUR INTEREST TO ENCOURAGE CISL TO LEND ITSELF TO THE PRESERVATION AND REINFORCEMENT OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN ITALY WHEN ITALIAN DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS FACE GRAVE DANGERS FROM SEVERAL QUARTERS. END COMMENT.

8. ACTION REQUESTED. THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO ARRANGE AN APPROPRIATE SERIES OF CONTACTS, HOPE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FULLY INCLUDING ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST, AFTER ASCERTAINING THE SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS WITH THE AFL-CIO. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT TALKS WITH THE AFL-CIO WILL COMMENCE ON APRIL 17 AND MAY TAKE UP PART OF THE NEXT DAY AS WELL. THE PROGRAMMING OF APPROPRIATE CONTACTS AT LABOR IS ALSO REQUESTED. FURTHER, THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ADEQUATE INTERPRETING WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE AFL-CIO, TO OFFER SAME IF APPROPRIATE, AND IN ANY EVENT TO PROVIDE A SKILLED INTERPRETER FOR THE MEETINGS WITH US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. INFORMATION ON THE PROGRESS OF PROGRAMMING WOULD BE APPRECIATED, FOR TRANSMITTAL TO CISL. HOLMES

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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